

# Bear Resistant Residential Refuse Container

## Urban Bear Management Assistance Guidance

### A. APPLICABILITY

Seminole County Code Chapter 258 establishes requirements for securing garbage within the County's Urban Bear Management Area (Exhibit A). Eligible properties may receive one bear resistant residential refuse container and have that container serviced, at no additional cost to the property owner, provided that each of the following criteria is met:

- (1) The application is postmarked, or hand-delivered, before February 19, 2016;
- (2) The property is within the Urban Bear Management Area;
- (3) The property receives the homestead tax exemption;
- (4) The property is assessed for collection of solid waste and recyclables;
- (5) The property is without a garage, shed or other means of securing garbage from wildlife; and
- (6) The household income is at or below 2015 Federal Poverty Guidelines.

### B. APPLICANT PROCEDURE

- 1) Interested parties should first determine eligibility.
  - a) [www.bearawareseminole.com](http://www.bearawareseminole.com) provides a mapping tool to confirm that the address is within the Urban Bear Management Area.
  - b) [www.seminoletax.org/dev/AddressSearch.asp](http://www.seminoletax.org/dev/AddressSearch.asp) provides a search tool that identifies homestead status and non ad-valorem assessments. Please note that the 2016 rates for solid waste collection and disposal range from \$199 to \$220 per year depending on level of service. Residential properties that are assessed only for disposal (\$70 per year) are not eligible as they are exempt from collection.
  - c) Questions concerning eligibility based on property location and property taxes may be addressed to Solid Waste Customer Service at 407-665-2260.
  - d) Questions concerning Federal Poverty Guidelines or proof of income should be addressed to Community Assistance at 407-665-2300.
- 2) Eligible applicants should mail the completed 2016 Application For Financial Assistance With Urban Bear Management Ordinance Compliance to:

Community Assistance Division  
534 West Lake Mary Boulevard  
Sanford, FL 32773

### C. REVIEW PROCEDURE

- 1) Community Assistance (CA) Review
  - a) Confirm that property is within the Urban Bear Management Area;
  - b) Confirm that Property receives homestead tax exemption and that the applicant is an owner of record;
  - c) Confirm that property is assessed for solid waste collection; and
  - d) Confirm that owner(s) income meets eligibility criteria.
- 2) CA sends letter of rejection for all ineligible properties stating criteria that were not met.
- 3) CA provides Solid Waste Management Division (SWMD) with all applications indicating which were rejected.
- 4) SWMD conducts inspection (from right of way) of properties not rejected by CA for presence of garage, shed, or other apparent means of securing waste.
- 5) SWMD sends letter of rejection for any properties deemed ineligible based on field inspection.

### D. AWARD OF ASSISTANCE

- 1) SWMD contacts the appropriate Exclusive Franchise Residential Hauler to order residential bear resistant containers for delivery to the Central Transfer Station.
  - a) Budget must be approved by BCC.
  - b) Haulers have agreed to take County orders and invoice for payment by check.
- 2) SWMD contacts all eligible applicants to sign Acknowledgement of Receipt at transfer station, or at property address.
  - a) The container will be transferred once the applicant has signed the Acknowledgement.
  - b) If applicant is not present for a scheduled appointment, then subsequent appointments will only be made at the transfer station.
- 3) SWMD will maintain list of County-owned residential bear resistant containers and conduct occasional audits to ensure compliance with Chapter 258.

